

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

**No. 88**

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### **Introduced by Assembly Members Torlakson and Furutani**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Anderson, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Tom Berryhill, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeVore, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Fuentes, Fuller, Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gilmore, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Knight, Krekorian, Lieu, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Miller, Monning, Nava, Nestande, Niello, Nielsen, John A. Perez, V. Manuel Perez, Portantino, Ruskin, Saldana, Silva, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Audra Strickland, Swanson, Torres, Torrico, Tran, Villines, and Yamada)*

*(Coauthors: Senators Maldonado and Wyland)*

August 17, 2009

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 88—Relative to Education.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 88, as amended, Torlakson. Education.

This measure would establish, until January 1, 2014, the California Task Force on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education for the purpose of advising the California Legislature on critical research, best practices, and models for building a future California workforce educated in the science, technology, engineering,

and mathematics fields. The task force would generate discussion on policy that would improve the teaching of these subject areas for the state's pupils. The task force would consist of Members of the Legislature and experts appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on Rules. The task force would conduct its business on a volunteer basis, be able to accept private funds, and would submit an annual report on its work to the Legislature.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The State of California's competitiveness in the  
2 global economy increasingly depends on our ability to better  
3 educate our young people in the science, technology, engineering,  
4 and mathematics subject areas and to attract more of our best and  
5 brightest students into science, mathematics, engineering, and  
6 technology careers; and

7 WHEREAS, The most recent 10-year employment projections  
8 by the United States Department of Labor show that of the 20  
9 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require  
10 significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully  
11 compete for a job; and

12 WHEREAS, One-third of fourth graders and one-fifth of eighth  
13 graders nationwide cannot perform basic mathematical  
14 computations, and United States high school seniors recently tested  
15 below the international average for 21 countries in mathematics  
16 and science; and

17 WHEREAS, California pupils ranked 46th out of 50 states in  
18 mathematics proficiency and 42nd in science proficiency on recent  
19 8th grade National Assessment of Educational Progress tests; and

20 WHEREAS, More than 50 percent of California 4th and 8th  
21 grade pupils scored below the basic level in science and 40 percent  
22 ranked below the basic level in mathematics as determined by the  
23 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known  
24 as the Nation's Report Card; and

25 WHEREAS, California schools must engage pupils in science,  
26 technology, and mathematics at a young age and keep them  
27 engaged throughout their education and career pipeline; and

28 WHEREAS, A legislative task force is necessary to provide a  
29 framework for statewide policy and support to California's schools  
30 in order to promote the improvement of science, technology,  
31 engineering, and mathematics education across the state and

1 thereby enhance California's competitive standing in the global  
2 economy; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
4 *thereof concurring*, That the California Task Force on Science,  
5 Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education is hereby  
6 established to promote the improvement of mathematics, science,  
7 engineering, and technology education across the state; and be it  
8 further

9 *Resolved*, That the task force shall increase legislative awareness  
10 about mathematics, science, engineering, and technology education  
11 issues, inform legislators regarding trends in mathematics, science,  
12 engineering, and technology education, and raise awareness among  
13 the public regarding the distressing shortage of Californians  
14 prepared to contribute to the state's future technology workforce;  
15 and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the California Task Force on Science,  
17 Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education shall be  
18 established for the purpose of raising awareness of educational  
19 issues and shall be nonpartisan in nature; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the task force shall be comprised of Members  
21 of the Legislature and experts as follows:

22 (1) The task force shall have 11 voting members, with additional  
23 advisory members and alternates as requested or required.

24 (2) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint all of the  
25 following:

26 (A) The chair and an additional member from the Assembly,  
27 with one member from the majority party and the other member  
28 from the minority party.

29 (B) One K-12 teacher with current public classroom experience  
30 in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or industrial  
31 arts education and with a membership in a state or national  
32 professional association on science, technology, engineering,  
33 mathematics, or industrial arts education.

34 (C) One post-secondary educator from the science, technology,  
35 engineering, mathematics, or industrial arts education subject areas  
36 with current classroom or administrative experience for the purpose  
37 of advising the task force on articulation of K-12 and postsecondary  
38 curriculum to prepare pupils for higher education.

1 (D) Two representatives of a business or association committed  
2 to supporting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics  
3 education in California.

4 (3) The Chair of the Senate Rules Committee shall appoint all  
5 of the following:

6 (A) Two members of the Senate, with one member from the  
7 majority party and the other member from the minority party.

8 (B) Two K-12 teachers with current public classroom experience  
9 in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or industrial  
10 arts education and with a membership in a state or national  
11 professional association on science, technology, engineering,  
12 mathematics, or industrial arts education.

13 (C) One representative of a business or association committed  
14 to supporting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics  
15 education in California; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Members of the Legislature who serve on  
17 the task force shall serve for a term of two years and only to the  
18 extent that their service is consistent with their duties as Members  
19 of the Legislature; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That nonlegislative members of the task force shall  
21 be at-will appointees serving at the pleasure of the Speaker of the  
22 Assembly and the Chair of the Senate Rules Committee for a term  
23 of up to two years and shall conduct the business of the task force  
24 on a volunteer basis and shall not receive a salary for services nor  
25 be reimbursed for travel or any other expenses incurred in the  
26 performance of their duties as task force members; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the task force shall have all of the following  
28 duties:

29 (1) Hold at least one annual meeting, open to the public.

30 (2) Develop and support an Internet Web site for the purpose  
31 of publicizing the task force mission statement and providing  
32 resources to California citizens, educators, and industry employers.

33 (3) Submit a report on the work of the task force annually for  
34 the review of the Legislature; and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That the task force shall accept no state funding and  
36 is authorized to accept private funds and in-kind donation to pay  
37 expenses incurred in conducting task force business; and be it  
38 further

1     *Resolved*, That the task force cease to exist on January 1, 2014,  
2 unless a resolution that is enacted before that date deletes or  
3 extends that date; and be it further

4     *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
5 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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